

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2382

To promote a return to democracy in Thailand.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2007

Mr. KIRK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To promote a return to democracy in Thailand.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Thailand Democracy  
5       Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress makes the following findings:

8               (1) On September 19, 2006, the military and  
9       police of the Kingdom of Thailand overthrew the  
10      elected government of Prime Minister Thaksin  
11      Shinawatra. At the time, the premier was in New

1       York City for a meeting of the United Nations Gen-  
2       eral Assembly.

3           (2) General Boonyaratkalin, leader of the mili-  
4       tary coup, suspended the constitution and dissolved  
5       the Cabinet, both houses of Parliament, and the  
6       Constitutional Court of Thailand.

7           (3) On September 21, 2006, the Department of  
8       State issued a statement saying, “There’s no jus-  
9       tification for a military coup in Thailand or in any-  
10      place else . . . we certainly are extremely dis-  
11      appointed by this action. It’s a step backward for  
12      democracy in Thailand.”.

13          (4) Following the military coup, the United  
14      States suspended \$24 million in bilateral assistance  
15      to the Thai Government.

16          (5) Eight months after the military coup, de-  
17      spite promises by the military leaders to the con-  
18      trary, Thailand still has not drafted a permanent  
19      constitution, held a referendum, or called for elec-  
20      tions.

21          (6) On December 30, 2003, the President noti-  
22      fied Congress that he designated the Kingdom of  
23      Thailand as a major non-NATO ally of the United  
24      States for purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of  
25      1961 and the Arms Export Control Act.

1           (7) The benefits Thailand enjoys as a result of  
2       its major non-NATO ally status include—

3           (A) allowing it to participate in certain  
4       counter-terrorism initiatives;

5           (B) allowing it to purchase depleted ura-  
6       nium anti-tank rounds;

7           (C) giving it priority delivery of military  
8       surplus;

9           (D) loaning it equipment and materials for  
10      cooperative research and development projects  
11      and evaluations;

12          (E) permitting it to use United States fi-  
13      nancing for the purchase or lease of certain de-  
14      fense equipment;

15          (F) giving it preferential treatment with  
16      respect to reciprocal training;

17          (G) expediting its export processing of  
18      space technology; and

19          (H) permitting its corporations to bid on  
20      certain Department of Defense contracts for  
21      the repair and maintenance of military equip-  
22      ment outside the United States.

1 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION OF THE KINGDOM**  
2 **OF THAILAND AS A MAJOR NON-NATO ALLY.**

3 (a) TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION.—The designa-  
4 tion of the Kingdom of Thailand as a major non-NATO  
5 ally of the United States pursuant to paragraph (1) of  
6 section 517(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961  
7 (Presidential Determination No. 2004–16; 69 Fed. Reg.  
8 2053) shall be deemed to have been terminated by the  
9 President pursuant to paragraph (2) of such section irre-  
10 spective of the requirement to notify Congress pursuant  
11 to such section.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall be effec-  
14 tive for the period beginning on the date of the en-  
15 actment of this Act and ending on the date on which  
16 the Secretary of State certifies to the appropriate  
17 congressional committees that the Government of  
18 Thailand has drafted a new constitution, held a na-  
19 tional referendum to approve the new constitution  
20 and scheduled a date for national democratic elec-  
21 tions to elect a new government under the new con-  
22 stitution.

23 (2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
24 “appropriate congressional committees” means—

1                   (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and  
2                   the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
3                   of Representatives; and

4                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
5                   and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
6                   Senate.

7           (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
8   tion shall be construed to authorize the President to issue  
9   a separate designation of Thailand as a major non-NATO  
10 ally of the United States pursuant to section 517(a)(1)  
11 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the period dur-  
12 ing which subsection (a) is in effect.

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